Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (Currently amended) ~~Use in a~~ A powdered formulation which is a freeze-dried mixture of a sensitive active material and an excipient ~~containing~~ comprising:

from 0.01 preferably from 0.1, more preferably from 0.5 to 50 % by wt of the sensitive active material,

from 50 to 99.99, preferably to 99.9, more preferably to 99.5 % by wt of the excipient, wherein ~~of~~ at least 0.1 % by wt of the mixture is in an amorphous state ~~to substantially reduce the hygroscopicity of the formulation~~.

2. (Currently amended) ~~Use~~ A formulation according to claim 1, of from 0.1, preferably from 0.5, more preferably from 1 to 50 % by wt of the freeze-dried mixture in an amorphous state.

3. (Currently amended) ~~Use~~ A formulation according to claim 1, comprising ~~of~~:
from 0.01, preferably from 0.1, more preferably from 0.5 to 50 % by wt of sensitive active material in an amorphous state,
from 50 to 99.99, preferably to 99.9, more preferably to 99.5 % by wt of excipient in crystalline state,
0 - 5 % by wt of excipient in an amorphous state.

4. (Currently amended) ~~Use~~ A formulation according to claim 1, comprising ~~of~~:
from 0.01, preferably from 0.1, more preferably from 0.5 to 50 % by wt of sensitive active material in a crystalline state,
from 50 to 99.89, preferably to 99.8, more preferably to 99.4 % by wt of excipient in crystalline state, and
0.1 - 5 % by wt of excipient in an amorphous state.

5. (Currently amended) ~~Use~~ A formulation according to claim 1, comprising ~~of~~:
from 0.01, preferably from 0.1, more preferably from 0.5 to 25 % by wt of an amorphous or a crystalline state of sensitive active material,
from 75 to 99.49, preferably to 99.4, more preferably to 99 % by wt of a crystalline state excipient, and
0.5 - 5 % by wt of excipient in an amorphous state.

6. (Currently amended) ~~Use~~ A formulation according to ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1 in which a saccharide is used to provide an excipient in an amorphous state.

7. (Currently amended) ~~Use~~ A formulation according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1 in which a sugar alcohol is used to provide an excipient in a crystalline state.

8. (Currently amended) ~~Use~~ A formulation according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein the formulation additionally ~~contains~~ comprises from 0.1 to 10% by wt (preferably from 1 to 10% by wt) of additive/stabilizer.

9. (Currently amended) ~~Use~~ A formulation as defined in claim 8 wherein the additive/stabilizer is an antioxidant, a free radical scavenger and/or a Maillard reaction suppresser.

10. (Currently amended) ~~Use~~ A formulation according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein the sensitive active material is a labile organic and/or inorganic molecule, a biopolymer, a polypeptide, protein, enzyme, hormone, vitamin, antibiotic, polysaccharide, lipid, killed or live whole live cell.

11. (Currently amended) ~~Use~~ A formulation according to claim 10 wherein the sensitive active material is a virus (including phage), bacterium, fungus and/or eukaryote.

12. (Currently amended) ~~Use~~ A formulation according to ~~any one of the preceding claims of~~ claim 1 which has a stable crystalline/amorphous matrix.

13. (Currently amended) ~~Use~~ A formulation according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 which has a substantially reduced ~~reduces the~~ hygroscopicity ~~of the formulation to a hygroscopicity of less than 5% by weight, preferably less than 3% by weight, more preferably less than 2% by weight, wherein the hygroscopicity is measured by the percentage increase in the weight of the formulation after 8 hours in a 75% relative humidity environment~~.

14. (Currently amended) ~~Use according to any one of the preceding claims substantially as hereinbefore described.~~ A formulation according to claim 1 which has a hygroscopicity of less than 5% by weight, preferably less than 3% by weight, more preferably less than 2% by weight, wherein the hygroscopicity is measured by the percentage increase in the weight of the formulation after 8 hours in a 75% relative humidity environment.

15. (New) A dosage form comprising a formulation according to claim 1.

16. (New) A dosage form according to claim 15 which is a container which comprises the formulation or an article which has been formed from the formulation.

17. (New) A method of preparing a powdered formulation which comprises forming a mixed solution of sensitive active material and excipient(s) containing:

from 0.01 preferably from 0.1, more preferably from 0.5 to 50 % by wt of the sensitive active material,

from 50 to 99.99, preferably to 99.9, more preferably to 99.5 % by wt of the excipient, and freeze-drying the solution so that at least 0.1 % by wt of the freeze-dried blend is in an amorphous state.

18. (New) A method according to claim 17 in which the active material freeze dries to a crystalline state and the mixed solution contains:
from 0.01, preferably from 0.1, more preferably from 0.5 to 50 % by wt of sensitive active material in amorphous state,
from 50 to 99.99, preferably to 99.9, more preferably to 99.5 % by wt of excipient in crystalline state,
0.1 - 5 % by wt of excipient which freeze dries to an amorphous state.

19. (New) A method according to claim 17 in which the active material freeze dries to an amorphous state and the mixed solution contains:
from 0.01, preferably from 0.1, more preferably from 0.5 to 50 % by wt of sensitive active material in crystalline state,
from 50 to 99.89, preferably to 99.8, more preferably to 99.4 % by wt of excipient in crystalline state,
0 - 5 % by wt of excipient which freeze dries to an amorphous state.

20. (New) A method according to claim 17, in which the mixed solution contains:
from 0.01, preferably from 0.1, more preferably from 0.5 to 25 % by wt of amorphous or crystalline state of sensitive active material,
from 75 to 99.49, preferably to 99.4, more preferably to 99 % by wt of crystalline state excipient,
0.1 - 5 % by wt of excipient which freeze dries to an amorphous state.

21. (New) A method according to claim 17 in which a sugar is used to provide an excipient in amorphous state.

22. (New) A method according to claim 17 in which a sugar alcohol is used to provide an excipient in crystalline state.

23. (New) A method of medical treatment which method comprises supplying to a human or animal patient a therapeutically effective amount of a formulation according to claim 1.

24. (New) A method of medical treatment which method comprises supplying to a human or animal patient a therapeutically effective amount of a dosage form according to claim 15.

25. (New) A method of reducing the hygroscopicity of a freeze dried formulation which is a freeze-dried mixture of a sensitive active material and an excipient containing:

from 0.01 preferably from 0.1, more preferably from 0.5 to 50 % by wt of the sensitive active material, and

from 50 to 99.99, preferably to 99.9, more preferably to 99.5 % by wt of the excipient,

wherein the method comprises the step of including in the formulation at least 0.1 % by wt of a sensitive active material and/or an excipient in an amorphous state.